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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/618,623	07/18/2000	Richard W. Gross	15060-0004	9309

7590 12/17/2001

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EXAMINER

PAK, YONG D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1652

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/618,623	GROSS ET AL.	
	Examiner Yong Pak	Art Unit 1652	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-37 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-37 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-8, drawn to DNA encoding a phospholipase A_{2γ} (SEQ ID NO:3), a vector comprising said DNA and a host cell comprising thereof, classified in class 435, subclass 252.3.
- II. Claims 1-8, drawn to DNA encoding a phospholipase A_{2γ} (SEQ ID NO:4), a vector comprising said DNA and a host cell comprising thereof, classified in class 435, subclass 252.3.
- III. Claims 1-8, drawn to DNA encoding a phospholipase A_{2γ} (SEQ ID NO:5), a vector comprising said DNA and a host cell comprising thereof, classified in class 435, subclass 252.3.
- IV. Claims 1-8, drawn to DNA encoding a phospholipase A_{2γ} (SEQ ID NO:6), a vector comprising said DNA and a host cell comprising thereof, classified in class 435, subclass 252.3.
- V. Claim 9, drawn to an antisense of the DNA of SEQ NO:2, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1.
- VI. Claim 9, drawn to an antisense of the DNA of SEQ NO:3, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1.

- VII. Claims 10-14, drawn to a phospholipase A_{2γ} of SEQ ID NO:1, classified in class 435, subclass 198.
- VIII. Claims 10-14, drawn to a phospholipase A_{2γ} of SEQ ID NO:2, classified in class 435, subclass 198.
- IX. Claims 15, drawn to an antibody of phospholipase A_{2γ}, classified in class 530, subclass 387.9.
- X. Claims 16-19, drawn to a method for treating inflammation in a patient with an antisense of SEQ ID NO:3, classified in class 424, subclass 94.5.
- XI. Claims 16-19, drawn to a method for treating inflammation in a patient with an antisense of SEQ ID NO:4, classified in class 424, subclass 94.5.
- XII. Claims 20-23, drawn to a method for increasing fatty acid utilization in a patient with SEQ ID NO:1, classified in class 424, subclass 94.5.
- XIII. Claims 20-23, drawn to a method for increasing fatty acid utilization in a patient with SEQ ID NO:2, classified in class 424, subclass 94.5.
- XIV. Claim 24, drawn to a method for measuring the activity of a phospholipase A_{2γ}, classified in class 435, subclass 18.
- XV. Claims 25-30 and 37, drawn to a method for identifying substance with modulate ipLA_{2γ}, classified in class 435, subclass 7.2.
- XVI. Claims 31-36, drawn to a genetically engineered cell capable of identifying substance with modulate ipLA_{2γ} expression in a cell, classified in class 435, subclass 325.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I-IX are patentably distinct because a DNA, an antisense, a protein and an antibody are different compounds, each with its own chemical structure and function, and they have different utilities.

DNA of Inventions I-IV are patentably distinct as encoding enzymes with different structures, functions, substrate specificities, and utilities. The proteins of Inventions VII-VIII are patentably distinct as having different structures, functions, substrate specificities, and utilities. DNA molecule of inventions I-II are not limited in use to the production of polypeptide of invention VII-VIII and can be used as a hybridization probe, and protein of invention VII-VIII can be obtained by a materially different method such as by biochemical purification. The structure of an antibody of Invention IX is not predictable from the structure of the protein of Invention VII-VIII and an antibody can cross-react with various proteins.

Inventions (V and VI) and (X and XI), respectively, are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the antisense of Invention V or VI can be used to inhibit expression of the DNA of Invention I or II, respectively.

Inventions (VII and VIII) and (XII and XIII) are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another

materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the protein of Invention VII and VIII can be used for the production of antibodies.

The methods of Inventions (X-XI), (XII-XIII), (XIV) and (XV) are patentably distinct as directed to materially different methods employing different products. Inventions X-XI uses an antisense, Invention XII-XIII uses a protein, Invention XIV uses a cell and a phospholipid substrate, Invention XV uses a cell and a modulator of ipLA_{2y}.

Further, Inventions (X-XI), (XII-XIII), (XIV) and (XV) are patentably distinct from each other because they have different effects and utilities.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim

remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yong Pak whose telephone number is 703-308-9363. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Ponnathapura Achutamurthy, can be reached on (703) 308-3804. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-746-3173.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.

Yong Pak
Patent Examiner

December 13, 2001



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